

*REMARKS*

Reconsideration of the pending application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

*Status of the Application*

Claims 2-14, 19-30, 32-43 and 48-98 are currently pending, with claims 1, 15-18, 31 and 44-47 being canceled, without prejudice. Of those pending, claims 2-6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 19-22, 24, 27, 29, 30, 32-35, 37, 40-43, 48, 49, 51-53, 55, 57, 58, 60 and 61 are amended, and claims 62-98 are new. As all of the claims are fully supported by the application as filed, no new matter has been introduced into the application by way of these amendments.

*Summary of the Office Action*

The final Office Action notes that claims 4, 11, 12, 20, 27, 28, 33, 40, 41, 51 and 58 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Office Action rejects the remaining claims as obvious.

*Discussion*

Applicants have amended the claims in a manner which places the application in condition for allowance. For example, certain rejected claims have been canceled without prejudice (to pursue such claims in another application), while certain allowed claims have been placed in independent form. In connection with the latter amendments, all of the dependent claims remaining in the application, including the new claims, are dependent on an allowable claim. With further regard to the new claims, each such claim is fully supported by the application as filed and, as mentioned previously, is dependent on an allowable claim. Entry of the amendments set forth in this response is, therefore, respectfully requested.

*Conclusion*

As Applicants believe the application is in proper condition for allowance, the examiner is respectfully requested to pass the application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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